

March 6, 2012

Co-Chair Terry B. Gerratana
Select Committee on Children
Room 011, Capitol Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Subject: Support for Raised Senate Bill 296

Dear Co-Chair Gerratana,

My name is Vance Howard Remele, aka Charles John Croce. I am an adoptee, born in the Norwalk CT 1945 adopted in 1947. All my life I wondered who I was, but was too afraid to find out.

As years ticked by, I married and had 3 children. I will never forget one day 1990, I was sitting in a restaurant with my sons and my oldest son asked "Can you find out who we are"? I was in state of shock with this question and totally taken off guard. I said to him, "Let me see what can do".

I was so afraid to find out who I was, but every day that went by, I saw my son's face asking me "Can you find out who we are".

Fast forward to 2003, I was watching a TV show about an adoptee in Connecticut, who found his biological family. Based on that, I made my decision then, it was time to find out who I was.

We petitioned the Norwalk probate court, to get my original birth certificate. I then hired a private individual to find my biological family. It took him 2 weeks to find out who they were. I met my mother, my sister and I now have 4 bothers, Aunts and Uncles at 58 years old, I just started an actually family tree. Which is the greatest gift I could give my 3 sons, was their true identity of who they are.

Due to the fact both my adopted parents passed away many years ago, I decided to change my name in 2003 and did so through the Cobb County GA probate court system from Charles John Croce, to Vance Howard Remele. Through my live birth certificate I found my mother named me Vance at birth, my middle name is after my real father and I now bear his last name Remele. By finding my biological family, I was able to pass on my nationality, family health information to myself and my sons.

One of the greatest days for me..... "I now have a name"!!!

In my opinion, every adoptee should have the choice to find out who they are. The choice is theirs.

Connecticut The Time Has Come

I want to help those Adoptees hold and hug their mother for the first time .

My dream come true after 58 years I was holding my mother in my arms in 2003 she died in 2006.

Sincerely,
Vance Howard Remele
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